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LITTLETON ON THE SHERMAN LAW.

Exactly how the president of the United States regarded the change of program under which he was relegated to the rear among speakers at the Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce banquet last week-sent to the very foot of the list, in fact—may perhaps never be known to the public. The story goes that he had been scheduled to speak first but that, when it got noised about that the Honorable Martin W. Littleton, representative in congress from the first New York district, was to be a guest of the chamber and was "loaded for bear" against the Sherman law, the committee promptly gave him the president's place on the speaker's list-at any rate, he spoke first. On the assumption that the incident has been correctly reported it is of keenly-interesting significance as indicating the eagerness of the leading business men of Pittsburg to hear somehting in criticism of the anti-trust law instead of eternal approbation and praise of it.

Congressman Littleton's views on the Oil and the Tobacco decisions and on the law that they interpreted are reasonably well known. He went to some length into the subject not long after the decisions were handed down. He went to some length into the subject not long after the decisions were handed down. In the Pittsburg speech he merely re-expressed and elaborated those views, saying in part as follows:

As the Sherman law now stands, every contract in unreasonable restraint of trade is unlawful. But since under section four no one may challenge the contract at the time of its making or later except the attorney general and since he can never know and see the millions of contracts and agreements which in the process of building up great industries are made and entered into, it follows that he must and does wait until by the painful processes of growth the great industry is knit together in one grand unit of business; and then, judging it as a whole, if he finds it in contravention of the Sherman anti-trust law, he proceeds to pull it to pieces.

It seems clear to me that the Sherman law cannot possibly be made effective in exterminating the real evil without earrying with it too large a sacrifice of the whole industrial fabric, and that it should be absolutely repealed and a new policy or scheme of legislation be inaugurated.

Two men, Black and Brown, may each be doing a wagon-express business together between New York and Hoboken—interstate commerce, Black may buy out Brown, and the latter enter into an agreement with the buyer that he will not engage in the business any more in that territory. Right there, as the New York congressman says, a violation of the Sherman law begins, But who knows anything about it outside of Black and Brown? Later on, Black buys out another expressman and gets from him a similar agreement-more violation of the law, and nobody outside of buyer and seller the wiser. Then, in the course of events, Black (with associates, perhaps) comes to own and control 35 or 40 per cent of the New York-Hoboken wagon-express business and for convenience he incorporates the business under the name of the Manhattan-Hoboken Amalgamated Express company, but neither cuts rates nor seeks to browbeat or bulldoze his competitor, merely pursuing the even tenor of his way as a corporation president and manager instead of plain "Black,

But the department of justice forthwith sits up and takes notice—and especially if some Hoboken newspaper has dubbed the company the Wagon-Express Trust and has sent marked copies to the attorney general. Then Black will be lucky if his concern escapes an order of "disi tegration" and if he himself manages to keep out of jail. He has knit together a big business in restraint of trade and must pay the penalty.

Is such a law a common-sense and practicable one! If something better is offered, will the federal law-makers persist in keeping the discredited one on the statute books?-N. Y. Commercial.

The president's physician now declares that he can eat as much pie as he pleases. Small boys who have temporarily renounced all presidential ambitions will begin to reconsider.

Pictures showing men and women in the act of kissing will not be permitted to pass through the Chicago postoffice. Well, the postal authorities can knock osculation as much as they want to, but they can never make it unpopular with the masses.

COLOMBIA'S HATRED.

Colombia's hatred of the United States on account of the part that the latter is alleged to have played in the secession of Panama from the mother republic and the advantages that the new little nation forthwith secured in the matter of the American canal grows more intense with the onward march of the years. The contrary might be expected to be the case under ordinary circumstances, but the Latin-American temperament has to be reckoned with- and that involves a spirit of vengeance that is not easily satisfied. The latest manifestation of this feeling of resentment and of a burning desires to "get even" with the United States even though the process may have to be extended through the coming generations is seen in the action by the government and the educational authorities of the old republic in having an official history prepared and adopted that will present Colombia's side of the conrtoversy in detail and elaboration and impute to, the United States corrupt motives in proenring the secession of Panama. It will not mince words-will "eall a spade a spade" as Colombia understands it. The chapter in the school as all other histories just ordered by Pradilla, director general of public instruction in Boyaca, accuses the United States of "criminal intent" and says that it was aided "by criminals of the vilest type" to acquire the Canal Zone. The men who engineered the Panama revolution are said to have been "cajoled by vile gold." The odore Roosevelt, who was then president of the United States, is styled the "soul of the conspiracy." And as if all this were not quite enough, the order directs that cevry school child in the province be required to memorize this particular chapter and that it shall be recited at all public exercises of the school and on all oceasions where the schools take part. All the other provinces or departments, it is announced will adopt the same plan and thus a national hatred of the United States be fostered that may some day bear fruit in wreaking on country the vengeance that the present generation of Colombians seeks. The scheme plainly goes altogether too far. It does not reckon with the popular intelligence, independence of thought and opinion, conservative judgment that inevitably come as the result of general education. Once let intelligent Colombians come to understand that hatred of the United States is being "rammed down their throats," as it were, and revulsion of sentiment will be sure to follow. The spirit of yeargeance will be a manufactured one at best and that sort is not generally lasting.

IS "SIZE" A SIN?

While everybody is talking about the United States government and the United States Steel Corporation and speculating on the outcome of of the present conditions, policies and purposes of both, some ordinarily "dry" figures interjected into the discussion may actually serve to brighten things up a bit. Only eleven years ago-in 1900our American exports of iron and steel and manufactures of them were valued at only \$130,000,-000 in round numbers; for the calendar year now approaching its close this branch of our export business will reach an aggregate value of \$250,-000,000 at least, on the most conservative estimates—an increase of about 93 per cent in a little more than a decade. Viewed from year to year some of the increases are remarkably impressive, disclosing really phenomenal conditions in our iron and steel export trade. Take, for instance, sheets and plates-in 1905 our shipments of them abroad aggregated only \$2,425,000 in value for the first eight months of that year, while for the first eight months of 1911 their value was \$13,525,000 or more than five times as much. The eight-months' period being used as before, exports of steel rails have been more than doubled in value since 1905; in bars and rods the value has been trebled; in castings it has been doubled; so it has in metal-working machinery and in wood-working machinery; in billets, ingots and blooms the increase has been from \$2,475,000 to \$3,562,000; in structural iron and steel from \$2, 500,000 to \$6,800,000 and in wire from \$4,485,000 to \$7,200,000. "A very large part of this rapidly growing trade," says the compiler of the statistics from the treasury department records, "has been done by companies engaged in "big business; and it may be accepted as certain that much of the trade would be lost if the field were left to producers on a comparatively small scale." And yet it is the "big businesses" that the United States government is obviously "out for"-is bent on throttling and destroying. This is the reward that they get for devising and putting into execution far-sighted plans for expanding the country's iron and steel trade beyond its own borders. Had they kept themselves "little" since 1900, a different story would have to be told today. But they never dreamed that "size" was soon to become a sin,

A Texas man wants to marry the widow man who was hanged, giving as his reason that the widow of a man who was hanged would not be continually declaring that her first husband was a fine fellow. If the Texas man should ever fall out with the wife secured in this way, it will be up to him to contrive to be hanged, so that his widow may have as good a chance to annex husband number 3.

Dr. Jordan, who has recently returned from the Orient, where he has been sojourning in the interests of peace, is to be banqueted soon. An appropriate dish on the menu would be stewed dove. The peace bird, in whose interests the doctor has been traveling, was potted while he was on the high seas.

A San Francisco judge has ruled that the question asked a chorus girl witness as to whether or not she wore tights was irrelevant. It certainly was irrelevant but nevertheless interesting.

Now that the navy department has ruled that the naval officers must walk ten miles a day. it is up to the war department to insist that army officers swim ten miles a day.

COUNTY NORMAL SCHOOL OPENED AT ELY YESTERDAY

Prof. John Edwards Bray, superintendent of public instruction in Nevada, is in Reno for a few days after some time spent in the eastern part of the state on official business. says the Reno Gazette. He states that yesterday a county normal training school for the training of teachers for rural schools opened in Ely. Superintendent Bray and the state board of education have arranged for the opening of this normal school, which is the first county normal school to be started in Nevada. This school is to be conducted under an act of 1909. The teachers for the school have

been secured and room will be provided in the Ely high school building. The prospective teachers will receive their training in the Ely schools and in this way will greatly aid the teachers of that city. Superintendent Bray says that other schools of this kind will be opened later. They are for the purpese of training Nevada girls for Nevada schools.

WILL BAR NEVADA SPUDS ON ACCOUNT OF EEL WORM

Sacramento press dispatch says that a demand that quarantine be placed on all potatoes shipped into California from Dayton, Nev., will be made by County Horticultural Commissioner F. R. M. Bloomer or State Horticultural Commissiener Cooke. Bloomer has discovered that many of the potatoes shipped from Dayton are infected. with the eel worm and if allowed to come into this state will spread the disease.

Trouble was had last year with the Dayton potatoes and a carload was intercepted in Sacramento and shipped back into Nevada. The Nevada people tried to evade quarantine by shipping the carload to Los Angeles, but they were again sent back. The shipment of Dayton potatoes is just starting and will be watched closely. The ananal shipment amounts to several hundred cars.

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